

Curriculum Vitae of  
**Elisabeth T. Vasko**

Duquesne University  
Department of Theology  
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**EDUCATION**

- December 2009: Ph.D. in Theology, Loyola University of Chicago, Chicago, IL  
Dissertation: *Suffering and the Search for Wholeness: Engaging Beauty and the Cross in Hans Urs von Balthasar and Contemporary Feminist Theologies*  
Dissertation Director: Susan A. Ross, Ph.D.  
Committee: Jon Nilson, Ph.D. and Mark Bosco, S.J.
- May 2001: M.A. in Pastoral Ministry with a Concentration in Spirituality  
Boston College, Institute of Religious Education and Pastoral Ministry,  
Chestnut Hill, MA  
M.A. Synthesis: *A Theology of Hope for Today: The Contributions of Karl Rahner and Julian of Norwich*
- May 1999: B.S. in Psychology, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI

**EMPLOYMENT HISTORY AND TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

- August 2009 - present: Assistant Professor of Theology  
Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA
- August 2007 -May 2009: Graduate Assistant  
Ann Ida Gannon, BVM, Center for Women and Leadership  
Loyola University Chicago, Chicago, IL
- August 2007- Dec. 2007: Instructor, THEO 178/WSGS 278  
Loyola University Chicago, Department of Theology, Chicago, IL
- August 2005 - May 2007: Research Assistant  
Loyola University Chicago, Department of Theology, Chicago, IL
- June 2003 – June 2005: Program Coordinator  
Amate House, Chicago, IL

\*Amate House is a post-college graduate faith-based service program

August 2001- June 2003: Co-Director of Youth Ministry  
Holy Family Parish, Inverness, IL

## REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

Vasko, Elisabeth T., Jeanine Viau, and Eunice Karanja Kaamara. "Listening & Speaking as Two Sides of the Same Coin: Reflections on Intercultural Feminist Learning." Forthcoming in the *Journal of Feminist Studies in Religion*.

Vasko, Elisabeth T. "Redeeming Beauty? Christa and the Displacement of Women's Bodies in Theological Aesthetic Discourses." Forthcoming in *Feminist Theology* 2012.

Browning, Melissa, et. al. Elisabeth Vasko. "Listening to Experience, Looking Towards Flourishing: Ethnography as a Global Feminist Theo/ethical Praxis," *Practical Matters* 3 (2010): 1-25.

Ross, Susan A., Melissa Browning, and Elisabeth T. Vasko. "The Goods and Evils of a Globalized Context: African and American Women Doing Theology." *Concilium* 2009/1: 44-51.

## ACADEMIC PAPERS

"Sacrifice, Scapegoats, and Bullying: Rethinking Passivity and Violence in Christian Atonement Theology." Paper presented at *College Theology Society Annual Convention*, New Rochelle, NY. June 4, 2011.

"Passivity and Violence: A Theological Reflection on the Problem of Bullying." Paper given as a part of the panel "Movements Toward Flourishing: Theological Responses to Violence" at *Journey Towards Healing: An International Dialogue*, sponsored by NIAMH and Office of First Minister and Deputy Minister, Belfast, UK. March 11, 2011.

"Navigating Feminist Space(s): Interdisciplinary Challenges and Opportunities in the Context of Catholic Higher Education." Paper presented at *National Women's Studies Association Annual Convention*, Denver, CO. November 11, 2010.

"Beauty and the Cross: The Framing of Attention to Suffering in Hans Urs von Balthasar's Theology." Paper given at *American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting*, Atlanta, GA. November 1, 2010.

"Prophetic Vision and *Mzungu* Listening in Postcolonial Space: Lessons from a US-Kenya Immersion Project." Paper given as a part of the session "Feminist Theologies, Catholicity, and Mission in a Global Context" at *Catholic Theological Society of America Annual Convention*, Cleveland, OH. June 12, 2010.

“Feminism/s and the Search for Solidarity in a Global Society: Reflections on a US-Kenya Immersion Program.” Paper given at *Globalization for the Common Good Conference*, Chicago, IL. June 3, 2009.

“Aesthetics and Eating: Barbara Kingsolver’s Animal Vegetable Miracle as a Resource for Christian Spirituality.” Paper given at the *College Theology Society Annual Convention*, South Bend, IN. May 29, 2009.

“Erotic Love and the Attractiveness of Divine Beauty: Reflections on Sex, Gender, and Justice in Hans Urs von Balthasar’s Theology.” Paper given at *Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary Student Conference*, Evanston, IL. April 24, 2009.

“Women’s Studies Meets Theology: Sex and Sacred Texts Take the Stage in the Classroom.” Paper given at the *National Women’s Studies Association Annual Conference*, Cincinnati, OH. June 23, 2008.

“Divine Beauty and the Cross: Reflections on Edwina Sandys’ Christa.” Paper given at the *Midwest AAR Annual Conference*, River Forest, IL. March 29, 2006.

#### **INVITED PRESENTATIONS AND WORKSHOPS FOR PUBLIC AUDIENCES (select)**

“Living the Blessing: What is Good Sex?” Invited talk at “Sex and the City of God Retreat,” Charis Ministries, Chicago, IL. February, 2008.

“Bringing Our Voices to the Table: A Conversation on Women, Authority, and Religion.” Workshop organizer and panel facilitator. Gannon Center for Women and Leadership, Chicago, IL. October 2007.

“Making Sense of Mentoring: How to be a Successful Mentor and Mentee.” Student Leadership Institute Conference, Loyola University Chicago, Chicago, IL. October 2007.

“Embodied Participatory Learning: African Communal Theology as a Method of Feminist Pedagogy.” Joan and Bill Hank Center for the Catholic Intellectual Heritage, Loyola University Chicago, Chicago, IL. October 2007.

“Living in the Garden of Good and Evil: What Does It Mean to Be a Person of Faith Today?” Amate House, Chicago, IL. April 2007.

“Best Meeting Practices: Hospitality as a Key to Successfully Accomplishing Group Goals.” Student Leadership Institute Conference, Loyola University Chicago, Chicago, IL. October, 2006.

#### **BOOK AND SESSION REVIEWS**

“*Frontiers in Catholic Feminist Theology: Shoulder to Shoulder*. Edited by Susan Abraham and Elena Procaro-Foley. Minneapolis, Minn.: Fortress Press, 2009. 272 pp. \$29.00 [Book Review].” *Anglican Theological Review* 93 no. 2 (2011): 327-328.

“*Christ Our Companion: Toward a Theological Aesthetics of Liberation*. By Roberto S. Goizueta. Maryknoll, N.Y. : Orbis, 2009. 179 pp. \$30.00 [Book Review].” *Anglican Theological Review* 93 no. 2 (2011): 340, 342-343.

“Feminist Theologies, Catholicity & Mission in a Global Context,” *CTSA Proceedings* 65 (2010): 101-102.

## **OTHER RELATED SCHOLARSHIP**

“Exploring Global Feminist Theologies in a Postcolonial Space: A Collaborative Learning and Research Project by Young Feminist Theologians from Kenya and the US.” Project co-coordinator and participant. Sponsored by Loyola University of Chicago, Maryknoll Institute for African Studies, American Academy of Religion, and the Wabash Center. Nairobi, KENYA. June 2009 to July 2009.

## **COURSES TAUGHT**

### Undergraduate:

Theological Views of the Person  
Classical and Contemporary Theology  
Women and Religion

### Ph.D:

Soteriology and the Cross in Context

## **COURSE DEVELOPMENT AND TEACHING RELATED RESEARCH**

“The Experience of Learning about Racism and White Privilege in an Undergraduate Theology Classroom.” IRB approved study currently being completed with Anna Floerke Scheid. Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Faculty Research Group on Multiculturalism. Sponsored by the Center for Teaching Excellence, Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA. January 2010 to present.

UCOR 201/WSGS 345: Women and Christianity. Designed new social justice theme area CORE course in collaboration with Aimee Light and Anna Floerke Scheid. Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA. Approved Spring 2010.

“Feminist Liberation Pedagogy: At the Intersection of Theological Academic Discourse and Social Action.” Joan and Bill Hank Center for the Catholic Intellectual Heritage, Loyola University Chicago, Chicago, IL. August 2006–May 2007.

## **ACADEMIC SERVICE**

### Professional Service

Women’s Consultation on Constructive Theology Committee Member, Catholic Theological Society of America, June 2010 to present.

Psychology and Religion Session Co-convener, College Theology Society, June 2011 to present.

**Service at Duquesne University, Department of Theology**

Co-founder of Feminist Theological Reflection Group, Fall 2009 to present.

Member of Doctrine Comprehensive Exam Committee, Spring 2011.

Member of Pastoral Ministry Committee, Fall 2009 to present.

**Other Service**

“Liturgical Reform in a Time of Crisis.” Blog for the “Public Voice: Feminism in Religion Forum,” *Feminist Studies in Religion, Inc.* April 30, 2010.

“Clergy Misconduct and the Abuse of Power.” Blog for the “Public Voice: Feminism in Religion Forum,” *Feminist Studies in Religion, Inc.* February 23, 2010.

Young Adult Mass Co-coordinator, Ravenswood Young Adult Catholics, Chicago, IL. May 2007 to July 2009.

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND HONOR SOCIETIES**

American Academy of Religion

College Theology Society

Catholic Theological Society of America

National Women’s Studies Association

Society of Christian Ethics

Alpha Sigma Nu Honor Society (National Jesuit Honor Society)

Phi Beta Kappa